

REMARKS

This amendment responds to the Office Action dated November 25, 2008, in which the Examiner rejected claims 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

As indicated above, claims 8-13 have been amended to make explicit what is implicit in the claims. The amendment is unrelated to a statutory requirement for patentability.

Claim 8 claims an information processing apparatus, claim 11 claims an information process method, claim 12 claims a program record medium on which a program is recorded and causes a computer to perform an information process, and claim 13 claims a program causing a computer to perform an information process. The apparatus, method, medium and program obtain reproduction information necessary to reproduce data when the data is recorded. The data is low resolution data and video and audio data. A clip management file is generated describing (1) the reproduction information and (2) a unique identifier that composes each clip. An index management file is updated in which management information of all clips and edit lists recorded in the record disc medium are totally managed. The index management file is composed of the reproduction information, the unique identifier and information representing the recorded position of the data that compose each clip. Reproduction data that compose all the clips are successively reproduced in an order of recordation according to the index or clip management files. When a record disc medium is loaded, the index management file is read from the recording medium and stored to a memory. When the clip is to be reproduced, the clip management file is read from the record disc medium and stored to the memory.

By (a) having a clip management file which manages each clip and an index management file which manages all clips and edit lists, (b) reading and storing the index management file when a record disc medium is loaded, and (c) reading and storing the clip management file when

a clip is to be reproduced as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13, the claimed invention provides an apparatus, method, medium, and program in which information necessary for reproducing data can be obtained quickly and without a time lag. The prior art does not show, teach or suggest the invention as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13.

Claims 8-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over *David, et al.* (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0131764) in view of *Takagi, et al.* (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0085997).

David, et al. appears to disclose arranging metadata objects into a plurality of categories and recording the metadata objects in accordance with the categories [0049]. For each category of relative importance, a control processor records the same allocated metadata object in each of a plurality of adjacent cells of a recording medium [0050]. A second identifier may be generated for each of first identifiers [0011]. The first identifiers which need to distinguish the pieces of material on the medium but need not be universally unique can be smaller than universally unique identifiers [0012]. The medium identifier is provided which identifies the medium [0013]. Metadata packets are provided with a header which facilitates identification of the metadata packets [0056]. FIG. 36A shows a magnetic tape 34 and represents an area of a magnetic tape from which information can be recovered [0303].

Thus, *David, et al.* merely discloses recording metadata objects [0049], having a header for the metadata objects [0056], and storing them on a magnetic tape [0303]. Nothing in *David, et al.* shows, teaches or suggests (a) a disc medium, (b) a clip management file for each clip and (c) an index management file which manages all clips and edit lists as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Rather, *David, et al.* is directed to a tape system storing metadata objects, headers for the metadata objects and having tracks from which information can be reproduced.

Furthermore, *David, et al.* merely discloses a control processor changing header information between successive packets recorded repeatedly [0057]. Changing the header information between successive packets provides a simple and convenient way of recognizing where metadata packets change from one group to another. By detecting a change in the header information, a reproducing apparatus may determine whether the metadata packets recovered from the recording medium contain more than one metadata packet which is the same. The reproducing apparatus may therefore discard redundant metadata packets [0058].

Thus, *David, et al.* merely discloses changing header information between successive packets. Nothing in *David, et al.* shows, teaches or suggests (a) reading an index management file from a disc medium when the disc medium is loaded, and (b) reading a clip management file when a clip is to be reproduced as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Rather, *David, et al.* only discloses changing header information between successive packets.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner fully explain why paragraphs [0057] – [0058] discloses when a record disc medium is loaded, the index management file is read from the record disc medium and stored to a memory and when a clip to be reproduced is designated, the clip management file is read from the record disc medium and stored to a memory as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Changing header information is all that paragraphs [0057] – [0058] disclose in *David, et al.* Header information is not a management file, but is merely the beginning information for the metadata packet.

Takagi, et al. appears to disclose metadata input at a planning process and at a casting process is registered in a database managed in a concentrated fashion by an archival manager 40A. (Abstract lines 9-12).

Thus, *Takagi, et al.* merely discloses archiving metadata. Nothing in *Takagi, et al.* shows, teaches or suggests a clip management file describing each clip, and an index management file which manages all clips and edit lists as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Rather, *Takagi, et al.* only discloses archiving metadata.

A combination of *David, et al.* and *Takagi, et al.* would merely suggest to record metadata packets with different header information as taught by *David, et al.* and to archive the metadata as taught by *Takagi, et al.* Thus, nothing in the combination of the references shows, teaches or suggests (a) a clip management file describing information for each clip, (b) an index management file managing all clips and edit lists, (c) reading the index management file from a disc medium when a disc medium is loaded and (d) reading the clip management file when a clip is to be reproduced as claimed in claims 8 and 11-13. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 8 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 9-10 depend from claim 8 and recite additional features. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 9-10 would not have been obvious with the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 103 over *David, et al.* and *Takagi, et al.* at least for the reasons as set forth above. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 9-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Thus, it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

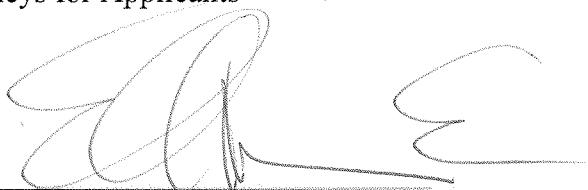
In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMERM LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

Date: February 24, 2009

By: 
Ellen Marcie Emas
Reg. No. 32,131
Tel. (202) 292-1530